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Abstract of the Disclosure

There is provided herein a system for video encoding and decoding that uses short-term and long-term buffers. Reconstruction of each block within an image may be performed with reference to one of the buffers, so that different portions of an image, or different images in a sequence, may be reconstructed using different buffers. There is also provided herein systems for signaling, between an encoder and a decoder, the use of the above buffers and related address information. The encoder may, for example, transmit information identifying video data as corresponding to a particular one of the buffers, and the decoder may transmit information relating to the size of the short-term and the long-term buffer. The buffer sizes may be changed during transmission of video data by including buffer allocation information in the video data. Also disclosed herein are methods and apparatuses according to the above.